

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 4, line 3 and ending at page 4, line 11 to read, as follows.

According to this method, the transfer residual toner is recovered into the developing apparatus and re-used to develop the electrostatic latent image on and after the following image forming process. Therefore, no toner will be wasted, ~~waste~~, reducing the amount of the bothersome work of maintenance. In addition, no waste toner container is also advantageous in reducing the size of the image forming apparatus.

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 7, line 26 and ending at page 8, line 7 to read, as follows.

By provision of the first auxiliary charging means, the charge treatment of normal polarity for the entire transfer residual toner by the second auxiliary charging means supplied with a subsequent normal polarity voltage can always be well performed, thus effectively preventing adhesion of the transfer residual toner to the charging means. Further, the transfer residual toner image pattern is erased to prevent an occurrence of a ghost image of the transfer residual toner image pattern.

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 9, line 4 and ending at page 9, line 20 to read, as follows.

By providing the first auxiliary charging means, as described above, the developer of the pattern-like transfer residual toner image borne ~~bared~~ on the image bearing member to be carried from the transfer station to the second auxiliary charging means is dispersed

or distributed over the photosensitive member surface even in a large amount to break its pattern. As a result, concentration of ~~[[o]]~~ the developer at the part of the second auxiliary charging means is obviated, and a sufficient charge treatment of the normal polarity is well performed to the entire transfer residual toner by the second auxiliary charging means to effectively prevent the adhesion of the transfer residual toner to the charging means. Further, the occurrence of the ghost image for the transfer residual toner image pattern is severely suppressed.

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 10, line 8 and ending at page 10, line 14 to read, as follows.

(1) In the case where the image forming apparatus is stopped in such a state that a toner adhered to the photosensitive member due to paper jamming or sudden power failure during image formation is sent to the transfer station, an abnormal image due to charge failure is generated when the following image formation is performed.

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 16, line 15 and ending at page 16, line 16 to read, as follows.

The entire operation in the case of forming a four color-based, ~~color-based~~ full-color image will be described.

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 23, line 10 and ending at page 23, line 24 to read, as follows.

Further, the developing sleeve 41 is rotationally driven in a direction opposite from the advance direction of the photosensitive drum 1 at the developer portion c. The developer layer or the developing sleeve 41 contacts the surface of the photosensitive drum 1 at the developing portion c, to thus appropriately rub the photosensitive drum 1. To the developing sleeve 41, a predetermined developing bias voltage is applied from a power supply (not shown) as a voltage application means. In this embodiment, the developing bias voltage comprises an oscillation voltage including a DC voltage (Vdc) superposed with an AC voltage (Vac), more specifically including a Vdc of -350 V and ~~[[an]]~~ a Vac of 1800 V (Vpp: peak-to-peak voltage) and a frequency of 2300 Hz.

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 28, line 24 and ending at page 29, line 15 to read, as follows.

The respective image forming stations PY, PM, PC and Pbk includes a second auxiliary charging brush 6 as the second auxiliary charging means and a first auxiliary charging brush 7 as the first auxiliary charging means, which are respectively abutted against the photosensitive drum 1. In this embodiment, both the second and first auxiliary charging brushes 6 and 7 comprises a brush member of electroconductive fiber. More specifically, the second auxiliary charging brush 6 includes an elongated electrode plate 62 provided with a brush portion 71. The brush portions 61 and 71 are abutted against the photosensitive drum 1 surface and are fixedly supported in substantially parallel with ~~[[to]]~~ to the photosensitive drum 1 in its longitudinal direction (almost perpendicular to the surface movement direction).

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 31, line 1 and ending at page 32, line 3 to read, as follows.

In this embodiment, the photosensitive drum 1, the charge roller 2, the charge roller cleaning member 2f, the developing device 4, the first auxiliary charging brush 7, the second auxiliary charging brush 6, etc., are integrally supported by a charging unit frame 111 and a development frame 112 to constitute a process cartridge 8. The process cartridge 8 is detachably mounted through mounting means 110a provided to the main body of the image forming apparatus 100. Further, in such a state that the process cartridge 8 is mounted in the image forming apparatus main body, drive means (not shown) disposed in the image forming apparatus main body and a driving force transmission means disposed on the process cartridge 8 side are connected with each other, thus placing the photosensitive drum 1, the developing device 4, the charge roller 2, etc., in a drivable state. Further, in the state, the various ~~various~~ voltage application means, such as the power supplies 20, 21 and 22 for applying bias voltages to the charge roller 2, the second auxiliary charging brush 6, and the first auxiliary charging brush 7, respectively, and a power supply (not shown) for applying a bias voltage to the developing sleeve 41 are electrically connected through contacts respectively provided to the process cartridge 8 side and the image forming apparatus main body side. On the other hand, the toner replenishing unit 5 is detachably mounted to the developing device 4 and the image forming apparatus main body through mounting means 110b.

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 35, line 21 and ending at page 36, line 3 to read, as follows.

As described above, in this embodiment, the developing sleeve 41 of the developing device 4 is rotated in the direction opposite from the advance direction of the photosensitive drum 1 at the developing portion c to rub the photosensitive drum 1 surface with the developer layer based on the developing sleeve 41 (contact-type, (~~contact-type~~ two component counter development scheme). This scheme has an advantage in recovery of the transfer residual toner on the photosensitive drum 1.

Please amend the paragraphs starting at page 37, line 11 and ending at page 37, line 12 to read, as follows.

*O: Did not occur. ~~Not occurred.~~

x: Did occur. ~~Occurred.~~

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 41, line 4 and ending at page 41, line 13 to read, as follows.

A solid image of 200 % comprising 100 % of yellow toner and 100 % of cyan toner superposed on the yellow toner was printed (formed) on A3-sheet in an areal ratio of 3/4, and the cyan transfer residual toner was observed as to whether or not it was present, as a fog image, at a solid white portion after the solid color image. At this time, the first auxiliary charging brush 7 was superposed with the above-mentioned DC voltage of +250 V capable of preventing the positive ghost phenomenon.

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 42, line 19 and ending at page 43, line 11 to read, as follows.

First, with respect to the frequency, a good toner recovery performance was attained at the frequency of not less than 400 Hz. The frequency value may be preferably be not less than 400 Hz since the toner recovery performance is achieved by application of the AC voltage but a slight fog image is liable to be caused to occur at a lower frequency level (300 Hz). This may be attributable to an occurrence of an intermittent operation of electrostatic adsorption and release at the lower frequency level, thus failing to provide a sufficient holding force into the brush portion 71 of the first auxiliary charging brush 7. In order to improve the recovery performance for the toner particles of both the polarities, it was clarified that a higher frequency to some extent was required. The upper limit of the frequency is considered to be about 5000 Hz. Above 5000 Hz, an excessive current passes through the brush, thus undesirably cause a problem of dielectric breakdown to pinhole(s) on the photosensitive drum.

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 50, line 23 and ending at page 51, line 5 to read, as follows.

As a result, it was found that an occurrence of a defective image, such as a fog image due to charging failure at the time of the subsequent image forming operation was remarkably suppressed by applying the AC voltage to the first auxiliary charging brush 7 in accordance with the conditions of first embodiment described above even in such a situation that a large amount of the toner which had not been transferred at the transfer portion d was adhered to the photosensitive drum 1.